Innis Herald '91-'92 Sep. 1991 Volume 26 Issue 1

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A EDITORIAL VA

Zeal and Enthusiasm Run Rampant

Undemanding, destressifying and thoroughly fulfilling though it was, all good things must come to an end. And so after a year's histus during which I travelled far and wide and saw many a wonderous wonder, I have returned. This fact was, however, unavoidable, as I do have a education which I feel compelled to complete. My return - still in its embryonic stages - appears to me, at this point, both good and bad.
Good, because upon my arrival in Toronto I was greeted by a motorcade of all my loved ones, some of my liked unes and many of my relatives. This pleased me muchly. Bad, because included in the festivities, disguised as a member of my father's side of the family, was a lovely and decorative float courtesy of my Visa creditors. And although it appeared that they had put a lot of time and effort into making it both a lovely and decreative float and at the same time functional, with many moving parts, I would be lying to say I was happy to see them. The Visa bill, whopping though it was, was really not my fault. And when I explained to Walter and Eliot from the repossessing branch that the blame must be put on the not much alked about Visadevit that possessed my body one day while strolling down the Champs Elysecs, they seemed less than convinced. This, however, this was not such a shock to me. It's happened before. And not just once.

Anywho, having left Paris — city of sin, village of vice, home of the twenty dollar baguette — it is with great zeal and enthusiasm that I face the coming year at the University of Toronto, in general, and linnis

College, in particular. Zeal and cothusiasm have never been my long suit. I had a long dress once but that's neither here nor there. So, although not much seems to have changed apart from all the sadness and misery that pervades my financial contentedness, onc thing has come to my attention about which I cannot help but remark: By some mitaeulous miracte I have become the editor of the Innis Herald. And although I would never have thought that I could become calous or enthusiastic about any job that would require sitting behind a computer for long hours, organization skills, keeping deadlines and dealing with horrible unwieldly amounts of stress and misery, I do find myself acting in a fashion that could be considered by some to be enthusiastic or even—heavens above—zealous. Perhaps I'm confusing that nervous excited feeling in my stomach with that lingering parasite that has been with me since I left Barcelona. Perhaps though, and tie me down and make me cat a bug if I'm wrong, It has something to do with the Herald.

To be honest and frank, which has always been my way, I have no great lofty intentions for this year's Herald. My wants and desires are simple; I want Christian Slater as my assistant editor and I want to have all articles written using only vowels, preferably just o's and u's. Above and beyond those requests, I would like the paper to be representative of Innis' student body, but that would mean that you would have to do some writing and if this edition is any indication, you are nowhere to

be found. Perhaps all you budding young writer types will materialize for the second edition. I also really want it to look good; that is to say, acsthetically pleasing. So if you consider yourself some kinda ariste or perhaps a carlooniste of sorts, well then the Herald wants you. We can't really cover news per se, as the term 'newspaper' might imply, simply because we only publish once a month on average. Kind of like Rolling Stone only different because I, unlike the editor of Rolling Stone. have great difficulty getting an interview with Eddie Van Halen, let alone a date. However, if there's anything you deem lotteresting that falls under the category of news and you want it printed up lo our humble rag, by gum, well print it.

Also, there's always room for expansion in our environmental and even in the urban studies sections. Ahem.

Ahem.
We need help, and lots of it. And
We need help, and lots of it. And
Ye first year then let me just We need help, and lots of it. And if you're a first year then let me just say that working on the paper is not only fun it's a great way to meet people. (I haven't actually met anyone yet but that might just be because I'm stuck in this damn office behind this damn emputer with all this stress and misery. So let's just say it's a great way to meet me, which is why you came to University in the first place, is it not?)

University in the first place, is it not?)
So come by the Herald office, room 305, if you have anything to say about anything. Even if you have nothing to say, you can come and just listen to me. I can tell you all about my trip. Mnybe I'll even show you my pictures.







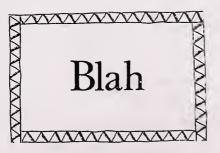


Cash through Chaos

The Innis Herald regrets that the article was printed under the pseudonym shown, and it extends apologies to those who may have been offended by it. The Innis Herald is committed tu upholding the Ontariu Human Rights Code and actively practices a policy of non-descrimination. The article in question was solely the non-descrimination. The article in question was solely the responsibility of The Innis Herald, and therefore should not be viewed as emanating from either Innis College or the University of Toronto.









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The Innis Herald

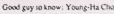
September, 1991; Volume 26, Issue 1

The paper that ties you down and makes you cat a bug.

Editor-in-hysteries: Nancy Friedland Assistant Editor: Christian Stater

Arts Editor of my dreams: Steve Gravestock Random Thoughts Editor: Christian Slater Environmental Editor: Christian Slater

Contributors:
Blitz, Manavi Handa, Karen Sumner,
Jenny Friedland, Jason Helfenbaum, Sandy Oh, Mike
Klinowski, Noah Berlove, Guys from Amnesty International





Illustrations: Kyo Maclear, Nancy Friedland

VALSTTERS A

The limits Herald has an open latters policy. Letters must be signed and must be free of sexist, rucist, agist, homophobic or juit plain domb content. Opinions expressed in letters, like all submissions are autituable only to their suthers; so tiability is stanched to the Innis Herald, the Innis College Student Society or to the publisher. In fact, the opinions expressed in this newspaper are attributable to absolutely mobody.

Hot Mustard or Honey Garlic

h seems fitting that I, as last year's forgotten editor, greet you, this year's hot young talent, at the beginning of your relign, and offer you all the advice that I have bundled up in old shopping bags and carried around with me daily, while you were galavanting (probably half, if not three-quarters nude) on various cotes de Francais. For instance, my first sentence above is really unnecessarily lengthy and could, if I wasn't such a lazy writer, be cut down to size in smaller, tastier portions. I recommend the McNugget style of prose for a professional in your new and lofty position — carefully measured sentences of perfectly proportioned morsels designed to look like naturally occurring literary phenomena. Your punctuation will serve the same purpose as the honey-garlic or hot mustard dipping sauces — it will accompany and complement your prose, highlight certain delicious areas, but never, never overpower the essential ingredients of your ideas. More advice: you probably shoutd not labour an arialogy as far and long as I have. Learn to recognize the moment when your thetoric becomes unwieldy and begins to crush the life out of your written page.

Okay — enough writing workshop — I'm sure you don't really need any advice in this area. What you should know, however, is this: Never, never attempt to do the really difficult, imaginative, stremous, demanding job of laying out the holy pages of the Herald without a supremely gluttenous supply of food & drink on hand. What kind of food, you ask? I recommend something heavy, greasy and take-out, preferably with hot peppers and/or anchovics. Then, to really set the stomach juices flowing, you must add an aleoholic, carbonated liquid supplement containing blood-enriching yeast and protein-rich hops. I leave it to you to figure out how and where to



obtain such an item (or twenty four of them). One hint: You do not need a prescription, altho you may occasionally feel the need to be doctor-supervised during (or more likely after) heavy ingestion.

There's only one more thing left to say, and for this I need to be serious for a moment. You must learn - as the leader of a diverse group of intellectuals, political activists,

creative geniuses and pretentious art-fucks -- you must learn how to handle people in a fair, diplomatic manner. I have learned that one, and one method only, works in equal measure with contributors from all



walks of life – get mean. Crack the whip. Bounce bodies. Pull out teeth and hang them around the office as trophies. Command attention through pain and punishment, baby, and you'll get the respect you deserve. I learned this the hard way, for believe it or not I was once (though will never be again) nice to those cock-a-roach underlings who scurried about assisting with the paper. What happened as a result of my sweetness-and-light routine? Nothing. Everybody smiled a lot and asked after my relatives regularly, but otherwise accomplished zip. These are the same people who subsequently learned to happily type their articles into the Mac with their tongues while foot-massaging my aching, beer-lifting shoulders.

Oh my! Nulf said, I think you understand whence I am arriving toward you. I have nothing else to say but good luck, work hard and drop as many courses as necessary to make the Herald the centre of your life. Forget friends and family, dumn all boyfriends immediately—the paper is your lover now. Treat in right, and it will love you for at least a little while. Then, of course, you will be left where I am.—alone, bitter, drunk and 201bs overweight with digestive tract damage. But it was worth it. My reigm was supreme and all-encompassing. May the force be with you too.

Yours internally, Karen Sumner wom-out ex-editor has-been

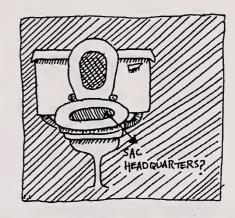
What Up?

Dear editperson:

What the fuck? I walked into Innis a while back and there was no Dead playing, the Pit was empty, Blitz had cut his inohawk off (again), Jenny smiled at me, no-one clse was around, I couldn't score, the place was empty (did I say that already?), the only graffiti in the wastnoom was racist crap (appropriate place for it, I guess), the pub closed at 4:30, I didn't see anyone wearing black and chainsmoking (or wearing tiedyes and smiling alot), there were no ob-so-lofty discussions of Kant or Sartre or any other pretentious

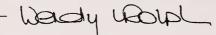
boring dead people, no-one was playing euchre, etc., so I freaked out but no-one cared, so I went to the washroom, slit my wrists, wrote good graffii (you know, like "Back in five minutes - Godot", remember") with the blood, still had some left so I'm writing this with the rest, and when I'm done I'll just slip gracelessly into the toilet and drown, so if someone could come down and flush me I'd really appreciate it, since I've always liked SAC members, and you just know they live in sewers, right, so it's been fun, but I can't really chat much more cause my velns are almost empty, bye, Iruis was six of the best years of my life... (gurgle)

Anonymous



TO Nancy Friedland, Innis Herald, for the Herald:

A warm welcome/welcome back to all new and returning students: If you're new, my guess is that someone's already urged you to "get involved". Whoever said it, they're right! The college offers a rich array of activities to make your studies at the U of T more rewarding and enjoyable. Just join in! And if you're a old-timer returning, don't forget that academic success can be enhanced through participation in College activities.



Nine Months

if, nine months ago, you and I had met - exchanged first looks, then words - touched, casually at first -found ourselves drinking on your front porch as the sun rose -kissed - laid ourselves down among tangled sheets as your housemates left for work, you around me and me inside you

to tonight I could be greeting our daughter as she prepares to enter this world with a loving kiss between the walls of your thighs



Cunnilingus Fellatio Intercourse

if the language truly does determine the attitudes, then must we see ourselves while

fucking as scientists, with condoms for lab coats?



by blitz
yes, you are beautiful
but for now I would rather
smell you, feel you, taste you,
hear you
so that all of me may
share in the beauty
that social

custom and my cyes
have guarded
so well.



Translation

it's not an always thing sometimes I lose now, am then or later sometimes I lose us, am me or you (both insufficient in this case)

in this case)
but sometimes I stay true
and through no touch of yours nonetheless
move with you
feel through you
yet translate that feeling into the
language of my body
(so much coursir than yours)
i drink of your life and realize that it
beyond you
is much like mine beyond mc







ORIENTATION VIV

Guy with Long Hair and Glasses Gives Good Service

Mike Kilnowski V.P Services ICSS

Hey, how's it going? As you may have surmised, there is an organization whose specific purpose is to open the office by the pit to allow students a place to nap, make free phone calls (no quarter, remember to diał 9) or gain respite from the wild maelstrom of euchre. These privileged people with keys are commonly referred to as the officers of the ICSS, or Innls College Student Society. We'd like to think we have a purpose, however our true raison d'etre is as yet undetermined, so, if you can conceive of anything we can possibly do to improve the standard of scholastic living around here, tell us. Better yet come to an ICSS meeting (or a few).

Every single person enrolled at lunis is a member of the ICSS, so come to the meetings and have your say!! You'll probably be able to figure out who we are within a couple of days, but if not, ask your orienta on leader (or sonoene etse). Don't worry, we're not stuffy (at

least I'm not), so bug us, bother us, ask us for favors, advice, directions -- anything (within the bounds of possibility and morality). Just as an aside, if you go downstairs, you'll notice lockers on the way to the washrooms. These are all available for rent: only \$5 for the whole year. (Locks are for sale also.) So decide which locker you want, come and tell me, and give me your money—then It's yours for the year. For the sake of ease, I'm the guy with the long brown hair and round glasses.

Clubs Clubs Clubs

The ICSS is Innls's student council that supports all student run organizations and events within the college. This includes such things as athleite teams, social chlos, academic unions, pubs, and even dances. The office of the ICSS is located in room 116 beside the main entrance to the college on St. George Street. As there are always new activities and projects being planned, the ICSS welcomes the participation of any student who wishes to become involved in this aspect of campus life.

Elections for the new executive are customarily held in the spring of each school year.

ICSS Executive Positions and Representatives for 1991 - 1992

PresidentMclissa Young
Vice President GovernmentNoah Beriove
Vice President ServicesMike Klinowski
TreasurerRamin Kaweh
Educational Commissioner———Scan Matty
Social CoordinatorAlexandra Thomson
Clubs OfficerDaniel Rochman
SAC RepresentativePhilip Howard
SAC RepresentativeSandy Oh
Men's Athletic DirectorJason Helfenbaum
Women's Athletic DirectPersefoni Vavlekis
Co-Ed Athletic DirectorAndrew Melim
Director of Orientation

ICSS Sponsored **Activities**

ATHLETICS

Men's
Mens

Women's

Soccer Touch Football Volleyball Baskerball

Co-Ed

Innertube Waterpolo Basketball Volleyball Waterpolo

Clubs and Organizations

Innis Film Society
Innis Herald Newspaper
Cinema Studies Students' Union
Eviroumental Studies Students' Group
SCAT (Innis Magazine)
Innis Take A Trip Club
Innis Role Playing Society

IT'LL BE DYNAMITE!

Wedneday

SEPT. 4th

DAY

Registration Campus Tours Barbecue Shine-O-Rama

NIGHT

Scavenger Hunt

Monday	Tuesday	Scavenger Hunt
SEPT. 9th	SEPT. 10th	SEPT. 11th
DAY		DAY
INNIS vs TRINITY	NIGHT All NIGHT FILM FEST	CLASSES BEGIN
		NIGHT BLUE JAYS GAME

Want To Help Gove Then Get Invo

Politically

Join the University's only

Only at Innis are students at

Become active in U of T's

The Innis College

Positions Available for Enquire at Room 116

ION '91!

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SEPT. 5th	SEPT. 6th	SEPT. 7th
DAY	DAY	DAY
trip to CENTRE ISLAND NIGHT Kareoke Pub	S.A.C. CARNIVAL NIGHT Concert leave for farm	NIGHT HART HOUSE FARM
SEPT. 12th		SEPT. 14th
DAY	DAY	DAY ;
CLASSES	CLASSES	REST & RELAXATION
NIGHT HART HOUSE DINNER Rowers Party	NIGHT BOWLING & POOL	NIGHT PARTY!!

ern Innis College? olved, Become:

nn-Correct!

v PARITY governing body:

ouncil.

ind staff represented equally.

's coolest student council:

r First Year Students.

Innisiation

Sandy Oh Director of Orientation ICSS

The ICSS Orientation program for 1991 offers a wide array of activities, designed to make the incoming students' integration into the university community, both easy and friendly. The Idea behind this year's expanded orientation, is to introduce the students to as many diverse and challenging opporunities as possible. In this way the student may be able to experience and grow accustomed to the unique campus lifestyle. With a wealth of new activities and events planned, I hope this year's orientation will provide a valuable learning experience for all those involved. But while the entertainment aspect has always been a mainstay, this year's program reflects a shift in emphasis towards providing more information about various academie and social concerns. In the end, the ultimate goal of any orientation program is to introduce the students to a new community where they are free to explore the possibilities of a higher education. My thanks to all those who helped make the innovative program a reality. Enjoyl

Fun Fun Fun

Jason Helfenbaum Men's Athletics ICSS

Yes, school has begun yet again and with it comes Chemistry, English, Stats, Economics, Psych, or whatever your major may be. Classes hawn't even begun yet and already you're probably dreading your first readings and assignments. So how about adding to your already busy schedule? What? Am I scrious? You bet. Break up the harsh week by playing on an innis intramural team. Take time out after a lie down (and a snooze) in your last tedlous lecture to do a layup for Innis on our basketball team, or play nigby (the casualty list is still quite low), or soccer, or hockey, or football, or softball. Not your sport. Okay, then how about an ultimate tournament, or co-ed innertube waterpolo? Yes this intramural sport does exist, and it is fund whe have more intramural sports than you have reasons not to play, and if there's a game that we don't have that you want, let me know and I'll see what I can arrange. So you say you're not the athletic type, well, we aren't really looking for athletes anyway. We're looking for people who like to have fun.

I hope to see many of you on the field, on the court or in the water. Sign up sheets for events should be up soon, and if you have any questions don't hesitate to ask me.

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Amnesty International

What is International? Amnesty

A.l. is now a worldwide human rights organization working independently of any government, political grouping, ideology, economic trenest or religious creed.

Getting Involved

If you want to join our group or obtain more information about Amnesty International, please contact our office at:

Innis College Room 210, 2 Sussex Ave. Toronto, M5S-1J5

Feel free to drop by and if there is nobody in the office, notice of events will be posted on the bulletin board bestide our door. Our answering machine also provides information and up-to-date announcements about meetings and events. Our number is:

978-7434

It now has more than 1,000,000 members in over 150 countries and more than 4000 volunteer groups worldwide. A.L. won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1977 and the United Nations Human Rights Prize in 1978.

What is Group 83?

Group 83 is one of about fifteen
Amnesty International (A.I.) groups
in the Toronto area. It is entirely run
by U. of T. students, and is financed
through our own fundraising efforts.
Most colleges and faculties run
letter-writing groups at various times
during the week.

Group 83 University of Toronto

This year, introductory meetings will be held: Tuesday, September 10th, at noon, rm, 209, kmis College. Wednesday, Sept. 11th, at noon, rm, 232, funis College. Thursday, Sept. 12th, at 4:30pm, rm, 232, Innis College.

ARTS AND

A Story

I'm not putting my name on this story because I don't want a bunch of people coming up to me and saying, "Oh. You're the one. I'm so sorry." I'm not writing this for sympathy. I'm writing it because I have to.

1991. A bar on Bloor

"Do you want another beer?"
"Blue please." I say.
This guy who's sitting beside me smiles. He's really cute. It's too bad!
I dldn't get to know hlm in highschool. We are trying to talk to each other but the music is too loud.
"Do you want to go outside?"
"Okay." I say.
It's quiet outside but my ears are ringing. Parily from the music and parily from the low buzzing sound you always get when you're drunk. We're having one of those conversations you have with someone you barely know. So you talk about absolutely anything because you don't know the person well enough to be silent.
"So. How many brothers and sisters do you have?"
I hesitate and then say, "Only one sister." He starts talking about this family or something. I'm thinking back. I'm thinking about my family.

The front door opens. Excitedly I run downstairs. I've been waiting for him to come and play all day. "There's my little girl. Come here shortie." My brother runs towards me and I squeal with delight as he picks me up and tosses me in the air. "Careful," my mom says, "she's not a toy."

not a toy."
"Mom. Relax." Carrying me on his shoulders we walk to the kitchen for dinner.

1991

"Do you want to go back inside?"
"What? Oh. Ya. Sure. Whatever."
We go back into the smoke filled room. I instantly snap back to reality.
"Let's grab another beer."
"Okav." I say.
As I walk by some friends they smile and one of them whispers "nice catch" in my ear. I laugh and keep going.
"So. Where do you go to schoot?" I ask. We are now seated at the bar.
"York."
"What are you taking?"
"Film."
"Oh. I know someone who was In that program. But that was a long time ago."

April 10, 1978
The phone was ringing. Half asleep she reaches for it.
"Hello?"
"Mom?"

"Hellor"
"Mom?"
"Hi darling. You shouldn't be calling so late, the nurses will get angry."
"Sorry. I wanted to talk to you. How are you feeling?"
"Fine. The doctors say I can leave tommorow. There's really nothing to worry about it was a minor procedure. How's your movie going?"

going? "It's finished. That's why I'm calling. I'm done Mom. I'm finally finished university. I'm free." "I'm so proud of you. We'll have to take you out for dinner. And Sharon."

"I'm so happy. Do you understand, I can finally get started with my life!"
"Your father and I were talking. You know, now that you're done we were thinking it would be a good time to start planning your wedding."
"Okay. Sharon and I'll talk about setting a date."
"Anyway sweetheart, I'm going to sleep now. I'm very tired."

"No wait, I wanted to come see

"No wait, I wanted to come see you."
"Now? No, you can't. Visiting hours are over and besides I'll be home tommorow."
"I really wanted to come now. I'm so happy. I have to see you."
"Don't be silly," she laughs. I'll see you tommorow." Go home. Your father's probably waiting up for you."
"Okay. I love you Mom."
"Me too. I'm really proud of you."

"...ii was great."
"What?"
"I said Goodfellas was a great movle. Have you seen it?"
"Oh yeah. It was good."
"I have to take a leak, I'll be back in a minute.
A few minutes pass.
"I saw Pete in the can. He wants to know if you want to do a few shots with some of our old highschool buddies. You know for old times sake."
"Sure. What time is it are ware."

"Sure. What time is it now?"
"12;30. Almost last call - we better

hurry."
"I should call my parents or they're going to worry."

He puts ou the light and checks the time. 3:30 a.m. Where can he be? It's not like him to be this late. So irresponsible. He could have at least called. The doorbell rings. Nervously, he gets out of bed and puts on his robe. He can see the lights of a police car through his bedroom window. His heart pounds. When the police show up at at your door, and your son isn't home yet, you know it can't be good news. He opens the door and two policemen toom before him. "Mr. Smith?" . "Please. Just tell me if he's alive or not."

"Come on."
"What?"
"I said come on, they're waiting.
You're really out of it tonight."

"Sorry."
"What are we drinking to?"
To many more nights like this."
Everyone shouts with approval
and downs their Tequila.
"That was gross," my companion
exclaims and burps loudly. We all
laugh.

exclaims and burps loudly. We all laugh.
"So where to now?" asks the guy in the UWO sweatshirt.
"Lisa's parents are out of town. We can all go there. Hey, Steve let's take your jeep so we can all fit in."
"Are you kidding?" I say. "Steve's hammered."
"I am not."
"How many have you had?

How many have you had?

Exactly."
"I don't know. A few. I'm fine.

Really."
"Well I'm not getting into your

"Well I'm low seems the says he's fine he's fine." "Under sine." "Look. Just relax. I'm not falling over or slurring or anything." "So - neither am 1 - but that doesn't mean I'm not drunk," I say. "Look, will you lighten up!"

April 11, 1978

April 11, 1978

1 get out of bed confused. How come no one came to wake me for school? Oh good, I think, maybe it's Saturday or maybe it's a PD day. Rubbing my eyes I walk into my sister's room. She is listening to the radio and crying, Some cousins and family friends encircle her.

"Why is everyone here? What's wrong?" I ask bewildered.
Unable to speak from crying so hard my sister changes the station.

"Listen." she says and turns up the volume.

...on a sadder note, there was a hit and run accident last night near the campus of York University. The

RANDSM

driver was found a few hours later parked in a ditch. He was still asleep after a night of drinking. Unfortunately the twenty two year old he hit, a Jonathan Aaron Smith, passed away in the ambulance on the way to the bospital. After being dragged under the car for nearly two kilometres, almost every bone in his body was crushed. A snapped spinal cord was determined the final cause of death. He is survived by his parents and two younger sisters. The funeral services will be held at..."
"Did you understand?"
"He got into a car accident but he's going to have an operation and be okay, Right?"
Silence.
My older cousin grabs me.

My older cousin grabs me.
"Your brother is dead. Do you hear me? Your brother is dead."

"Do you hear me?"
"What?"

"Do you hear me?"
"What?"
"I said lighten up. My house is only four blocks away. Steve can drive that far."
Frustrated, I don't know what to say. What should I tell them? Should I tell them the gore? Should I tell them about the clothes the police sent us that were so soaked with blood even his underwear was red. Should I tell them about sitting in the courtroom listening to the corners report, going through each broken bone one at a time. Should I tell them about the wailing I heard that was so strange and loud I though it was an animal. Should I tell them that the sound came from my brother's fiancee after they told ber. Should I tell them bow all of her dreams were shatered. How she didn't get married until twelve years later. Should I tell them about the years of depression my mother and father went through. Should I tell them how it has been thirteen and a half years and not one day has gone by without me thinking about my brother. About the brother I only knew until the age of six. About the brother I one simple act of someone who was drunk getting behind the wheel.

I wish I could tell you, the person

who was drunk getting behind the wheel.

I wish I could tell you, the person reading this, to read it and then read it again. And then think to yourself that this is not an isolated moident about one persons life. It's about my family and other families that feel it every single day.

I am not a Man

Hello. Welcome back from your no-doubt lovely summer break. I have an announcement to make. First, however, I'd like to do a bit of preparation. Were you to see me naked you would notice things like my Adam's apple, the scraggly hair on my chest and my penis and call me a man. You would however be wrong, for I have resigned my manhood. Although indissputedly a male of the species Homosapiens (so called), I am not a man. A "man" (except when used as a general term for "person", as was in the Bad Old Days') has a certain set of characteristics, primarily in our society being that he is pol a woman, with all that we think that Implies. I do not wish to define myself in the negative, nor do I wish others to define me thusly. In fact, I'd rather not be defined into a class that includes several billion other people, most of whom I have very little in common with. Yes, by the way, I do enjoy having sex with female members of the Homosapiens: so do many female people. Yes, I am somewhat louder and more aggressive than most female people this is partly cultural conditioning, which was neither my fault nor my virtue and which I am struggling to become aware and In control of there are also the considerations that a) I am louder and more aggressive than many nale people and b) there are many female people who are louder and more aggressive than many funde people and b) there are many female people who are louder and more aggressive than many flushe considerations that a) I am louder and more aggressive than many flushe considerations that a) I am louder and more aggressive than many flushe of "mule". Simply put, I find the categories of "mule". Filack" and "yellow", etc.) both constrianing and divisive. I am a complex compassite

of Goddess, genetics and twenty-three years of unique experience (as in every other twenty-three year old) and resent anyone who tries to lump me, or parts of me, for good or for bad, in a category so vague that forty-nine percent of the species can fit into it. I consider this an insult. I consider it a further insult to have the gall to lump me in this category for the basic reason that I have a penis. I also consider it evidence of a profound lack of thought.

I will not deny that the society we inhabit has tried throughout my life to brainwash me into taking on certain stereotypically "manly characteristics (such as the prevlously mentioned loudness and aggressiveness). I will also not deny that some of this brainwashing has taken hold of me. However, to use this as an excuse for calling me a "man" its to ignore two other salient facts. One, the fact that no matter how much brainwashing Is done to me I remain first of all a person. Two, the assumption in the term "man" that I am completely brainwashed, whereas in reality the degrees of washing vary, and without getting to know me (really well, the precise degree (and thus the accuracy of the term "man", which can obviously never be one bundred percent, i.e. completely accurate) is unknown. As well it glves the implication that the person applying the epithet is somehow an objective, completely unbrainwashed observer, which is ridiculous.

To sum up, then, I would ask the following of those I come Into contact with: Firstly, if sex sneedfe

To sum up, then, I would ask the following of those I come into contact with: Firstly, if sex specific

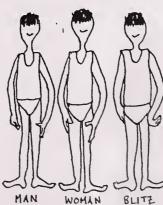
identification is needful - i.e. to identification is needful - i.e. to recognize me in a crowd so you can know who to talk with about why Bad Religion are gods, call me a "male". Secondly, don't insult my and your own intelligence by assuming characteristics I may or may not have simply because I do have a penis (or don't have a vagina, as the case may be). And if any of this seems reasonable to you, may I suggest you apply It to yourself, thus hastening the day when instead of men and womyn, we can all be people.

Other stuff... I'd like to take this space to advise you, at peril of missing some great music, to check the Lowest of the Low. Dig Circus, and Bigmouth, as I see as three of the brighter lights on the Toronto club scene. All three are unpretentious, fun to watch, and best and rarest of all - genuinely intelligent bands who combine accessibility with honesty. They don't sound or look alike - but they're making good musie with no bullshit. Check 'em out, and tell them I sent you, so they'll maybe put me on a guestlist sometime. ...and if you missed fyagal and/or Jonathan Richman, may I gleefully Inform you that you missed two incredible shows and you should, if you care about music, not repeat this mistake should they return.

Any questions or comments should be sent to the Herald, just to let us know you exist and because - believo it or not - we're interested.

let us know you exist and because -believo it or not - we're Interested, dannit. So write. Seeya.





Rebirths and Abortions

Alan Parker's The Commitments, about a Dublin R&B outfit with the same name, spouls preposterous blifel. It offers up rock critic sociology — comparing North Dubliners with American blacks sociology — comparing North Dubliners with American blacks—and presents contemporary Dublin as if It were London during the Blitz. (According to Parker, Dublin is populated solely by klds cavorting destructively In picturesque rulns.) Almost every theme seems either false or way, way off. However, the movie never takes what it says seriously. Its unstated, real subject is energy, specifically the energy teemagers feel when they're involved in something they consider worthwhile (ie. a rock and roll band). In fact, The Commitments, probably more than any other film I've seen, comes closest to capturing this energy and the energy of rock music in general.

The movie takes its tone from the band's manager, Jimmy Rabbitte. Jimmy boasts a proud, hipster lineage: he combines the best aspects of On the Road's Sal Paradise and Dean Moriarity, possessing Dean's energy but lacking Sal's nucrotic moodiness. Sal's reflectiveness without Dean's carelessness. (You may also spot Laurence Harvey's hustler agent from Expresso Bongo and Willie Nelson's Doe from Songwriter in Jimmy's character.) As the band's principal mentor,

Jimmy improvises theories to justify his actions but he's not committed to anything he says: he's only committed to the high he gets when he picks up a full head of steam.

Two old school chums ask Jimmy to manage their band. Jimmy agrees and immediately fires the singer—who specializes in selections from the Burt Bacharneh songbook—and places an ad in the paper urging people with "soul" to audition. After weeding through the Slncad O'Connor and Sting wannabees, punks and metalheads, Jimmy comes up with a disparate crew. Included in the final line-up are Deco Cuffe (a lead singer with a voice like Wilson Pickett and the manners of Johnny Rotten), Joey - the Lips-Fagan (a trumpeter of indeterminate age who claims to have played with everyone from Elvis to Joe Tex), three vivacious young women-collectively deemed The Commitment-ettes, and several tossers from the neighbourhood. The band steadily improves but egos and sex get in the way despite Jimmy's best efforts. (This is probably the only realistle observation in The Commitments: both of my brothers werefare in rock bands and it may be easier to carry an egg in your back pocket than keep a band together.)

Centering the action on Jimmy's efforts to get and keep the band together is a canny dramatic move. As a result, the extended performance sequences have a

dramatic edge to them. This distinguishes the movie from many (most) other rock films where the music is ignored, sub-standard or entirely unrelated to the plot. (It helps that the Commitments only play R&B Classies so you always enjoy hearing them.)

Alan Parker's direction is flashy and exuberant. After lumbering his way through serious social issues and cinematic tour de forces (in Mississippi Burning and Angel Heart) he seems to be incredibly relieved at not having to deal with a profound subject. At times, the direction seems a little too silck but the east's directness -- they're almost all inexperienced actors --prevents this from becoming a problem. Parker cast musicians so that the performance seenes would look genuine but the wound up with an amazing ensemble. (Robert Arkins' limmy stands out but that may only be due to the size of his role.) Then again, the silickness may sult the subject perfectly. As Elvis once said, it doesn't have to be spontaneous, it just has to sound that way. The Commitments does.

Boyz in the Hood has the kind of realism critics like Roger Ebert love, its plot comes from old movies. The movie sets virtuous Tre (Cuba Gooding, Jr.) against troubled, intelligent DoughBoy (Ice Cube).





The Travelling Neurotic 7

Jenny Friedland

My mother cleverly suggests that I label It excitement but I prefer to think of it as a feeling of impending doom. Either way, whenever I am about to set off for another country I am stricken with panic. The plane may crash, the bus will most certainly crash, they will steal my passport and make me drink the local water. I won't be able to find any toilet paper —ad things are sure to abound. But the way I see it, life is full of risks and either you take some of them or you resign yourself to a life of dulhess.

So this summer I went to Mexico. Before I went, however, I tried to lessen some of the risks involved. Now, being a firm believer that all planes may crash, there was nothing I could do about the flight except avoid booking it with Dwayne's Planes or some such nonsense (although once, when flying at Christmas, I actually asked the pilot if he had remembered to de-ice the wings). The way I saw it, the plane would either crash or it wouldn't and since I did want to get to Mexico, I figured I would take my chances. I did not feel, however, that I had to take chances with my health. I stocked up on Immodlum, Pepto-Bismol, a water purifier and malaria pills. Then I went to the St. Mike's travel clinic and tet them inject what they would into my tush and I listened attentively while they told me everything I ever wanted to know about debydration and the evils of uopeeled fruit. Finally, after I had recorded the numbers of all my traveller's cheques and made sure that I had put at least one roll of toilet paper in at least twelve different places, I was ready to go.

Ever the cautious traveller, after I had miraculously landed in Mexico

City and they handed me my tourist card. I made certain to put it in a safe place. After all, everybody (except, apparently, the woman I was travelling with) knows that you don't travel in Mexico without your tourist card. But what I would call being responsible, my companion preferred to call neurotic, and my frequent suggestions that she put her tourist card somewhere safe, or that we avoid walking down dark alleys alone at night, or that maybe it wasn't a good idea to drink the water at a market stand, were met with comments like, "Do you ever stop worrying?", "Stop acting like a child", and "Can't you have fun?" etc. Now of all the risks I had calculated before embarking on this journey, I had never factored in the possibility that a fairly solid friendship would be utterly destroyed. It wasn't that I couldn't have fun, it was just that I knew me well enough to know that to really have fuo I had to make sure that everything was in order. It was not, for example, fun when, after travelling all night on a bus, we were stopped at a provincial border and told that we could not continue because my frlend had tost her tourist card. A big, far federale with no sense of humour told me that I should go on while my friend return to get her new card. I said that I was not about to leave her in the middle of nowhere and asked how it was that we were to return to Chetumal (the closest city with an immigration office). The man said that be didn't care, a.-d finally the two of us found ourse es hitchhiking on a deserted Mexican highway. Of course, hitchhiking is a risk that I

panic that we'd gct picked up and killed all because some government official would take only her and not me. I mean, what exactly did be have in mind? And was it really so neurotic of me to have worried about where our tourist cards were? I suppose that too much worry, or always trying to anticipate problems down the road, does, to some, seem a little too controlling but I figure that because enough bad thiogs happen that you cant control — like planes crashing or cars running you over — you might as well control what you can. Hell, I even quit smoking.

And I don't think I'm being neurotic when, to give another example, I decline an invitation to go to a party with five guys I just met, where the only transportation is someone else's car, where I'd be stuck in the middle of nowheresville should I opt not to drive back with someone who Is drunk, etc. This I call common sense. This my friend called being a suck, and so she went without me. Now, I know that no means no and all that but I also think it is a woman's responsibility to avoid situations in which no might be pretty difficult to believe. And seeing that my friend is blonde and thin and quite the Mexican enchilada, her going to a party with five guys she just met would seem to be one of those situations. And, it turns out, she had a fairly dismal experience. She was the only female at this so-called fiests, all the guys thought that she was there for a good time, everybody was really drunk and nobody would drive her home. It was apparently quite a heirous adventure but at least I'm not a bonchead. And I never got diarrhoca.

DoughBoy, who is raised by his emotional mother, is dragged under by the violence in his neighbourhood, while Tre, raised by his strong no-nonsense father, escapes it. You can start with any old Hollywood movie about siblings with different temperaments, paste on some gilb observations about eurrent black experience, mix in clements of the Black National Socialism Spike Lee developed in



Do The Right Thung, add lackluster performances, avoid any sense of rhythm, and come up with the same thing. Writer-director John Singleton is this year's Spike Lee without any of Lee's technical skill. Boy' in the Hood is boring and obscenely patriarchal. Tre succeeds because his father knows how to discipline him white DoughBoy fails because his mother is too weak and hysterical. Singleton is an odd mix of commercialism — the movie ends with happy ending sub-titles for Tre and his girlfriend so that there aren't any loose ends whatsoever— and Spike Lee's brand of overti politicization: the kind of bullshit has sells movies to liberal critics desperate to expose their politically correct, earnest genitalia. Larry Fishburne does some good work as Tre's father and lee Cube labours mightily to give his character some depth. However, the movie betrays both of them. Fishburne is given abhorent political speeches while Singleton never leis Ice Cube develop anything. The key to interpreting the movie is in the sub-titles and a gratuitous sex scene. Singleton won't let the audieoce interpret anything for themselves and he's the kiod of artist who—assuming we can't focus on anything for an extended period of time without some pornographle gratification—isn't afraid to flash us a little tit to keep us alert.

Sometimes first-lime writer-directors are their own worst enemies. Too close to their scripts to recognize what's amiss and probably too inexperienced or uncertain as directors to compensate for the script's flaws, they let good projects slip down the drain — or more commonly half-way down. Reflecting Skin, the directorial debut by the young Englishman Philip Ridley, provides a perfect example of this phenomenon.

Reflecting Skin has a promising, rich set-up.Nime-year old Seth Dove is a little hellion who cruelly hassles his widowed neighbour, an Englishwoman named Dolphin Blue. His opening sortie at bet involves exploding an inflated bullfrog in her face so that she's coated with its blood. Seth's crazed mother victously abuses him and his father is weak and inteffectual. His brother Luke doesn't have time for him and may be attracted to Dolphio. When people start turning up dead — the first victim is one of Sch's slaymates — Seth decides that Dolphin's a vampire. (He's been reading his father's pulp novels.)

The ideas aren't original. The movie's themes — how children tragically misinterpret events, their

psycho-sexual tensions, their capacity for cruelty, and adults' inability to respond to childrencrop up in countless works. (They range from Hemingway's A Day's Wait to Lawrence's Recking Horse Winner to James's What Malsie Knew and Peanuts.) However, the ideas are strong enough dramatically to work and they seem drawn from observation rather than specific works. Reflecting Skin doesn't suffer from the pervasive post-modernist: self-refleive altusionalitis.

Unfortunately, at this point in his career, Ridley is a clumsy craftsman. At best, his dialogue's functional; at worst, wooden. He's not much better with the performers most of whom come across as petrified or lost though Jeremy Cooper, the young actor who plays Seth, tries and is physically suited to the role. (Sometimes he looks corn fed angelic and sometimes demonic: E.T.'s Henry Thomas with a streak of cruelty and a diseased mind.) Lindsay Duncan, who plays Dolphin, has a couple of moments as weil. But these two are the best of the lot and they're not particularly notable.

It was probably a mistake to locate the action in a small mid-Western

the lot and they're not particularly notable.

It was probably a mistake to locate the action in a small mid-Western town. Ridley - an Englishman-appears to have oo idea of what tife in a small town is like. The Dove gas station and Dolphin's house are supposed to be dillapldated but there's not a scratch on anything in the Dove household while Dolphin could give a Rosedale maven some lessons about interior decorating. The material isn't far enough removed from conventional realism to accept these gaffes. (To be fair, though, this may be because of the budget.) The characters' names don't help either.

Ridley's direction isn't distinctive or confident enough to let us surrender completely to his vision. Some of the most chilling scenes in the movie fall curiously flat as a result. (For example, Seth finds an abandoned feurs and assumes it's his decassed playmate who's now an anget.)

Ridley started as a painter but his

abandoned lenis and assumes it's his deceased playmate who's now an angel.)

Ridley started as a painter but his images aren't exactly compelling and he doesn't seem particularly drawn to film. Reflecting Skin. could just as easily have been a play or prosemediums he's also worked in—and would probably have worked better. Ridley reminds you of Tarkovsky but be lacks the passion for film which makes Tarkovsky's work interesting. At this stage, though, the filmmaker he most resembles is Neil Jordan (Mona Lisa, High Spirits). Like Jordan, he lacks film sense but makes up for that with ideas. Reflecting Skin, jike Jordan's first movie Angel, is a failure but it's a promising one.



VV BACK PAGE VV

INNIS FILM SOCIETY

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For more information, please phone 978-7790

DREYER thursday

thursday, september 19, 7 pm, free Carl Thunder Denyer, 1943, 105 min, 1-50; Daniel W/See, calcing

GALLAGHER RIMMER

thursday, september 28, 7 pm, \$3.00 Durid Human, 1970, F min., colour, ethnit, 16 Last Durid Human, 1970, 8.5 stdn., colour, tennal Chris Gallagher, 1979, 10 min., bitzr & colour, seund

Surfacing on the Thomas Variations on a Collophane Wrapper

The Nipe-O'Clock Gun Turning! City

Chyle Gallegher, 1980, 8 min., colour, swend Chris Gallegher, 1983, 10 min., colour, sound Chris Gallegher, 1983, 7 min., colour, swend David Monter, 1970, 9 min., culver, allest, 16 Last

CHAMBERS

thursday, october 3, 7 pm, \$3.00

Hebrid R34

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OBERHAUSEN

thursday, october 3, 7 pm, \$3.00

Oberhausen's director Angela Hasrdt will be present to introduce the winners of the 1991 Oberhausen Short Film Resirval, including films by an diswakmajar, the Brothers Quey & others. Presented in cooperation with the Goethe lantium Fernation

The limis Film Society appreciates the generous ssistance of the Ontario Arts Council, the Toronto Arts Council, and the limis College Student Society.

Festival of Festivals

The 16th Annual Toronto Festival of Festival runs from September 5-14th. The line-up looks very promising. There are new films by Krystoff Kieslowski, David Beaird, the Maysles brothers, John Frankenheimer, Peter Greenaway, Taui Hark (a one-man industry, he's directed two and co-directed one), John Woo, the Coen brothers, Terry Gilliam, Mike Leigh, Chamal Ackerman, Bruce Elder, Derek Jarman, Jacques Rivette, Nicolas Roeg, Godard, Michael Apted's sequel to 28 Up 35 Up, Agnes Varda, Christian Blackwood, and the one everybody's been waiting for, Gus Van Sant's follow-up to Drugstore Cowboy: My Own Private Idaho, starting Keanu Reeves and River Phoenix. There is also one of Van Sant's short films and an unreleased Bruce Weber work Backyard Movie. Two actors—Sean Penn and Jodle Foster—make their directing debuts. The Midnight Madness program sounds a lot more interesting than last year's. The spoilight—on Ken Loach (Hidden Agenda)—toesn't exactly grab me but there's plenty of other great stuff. Some of the other highlights are a block party on Saturday, September 7th from 6 to midnight on Yort-ville Ave between Bay and Cumberland and a free screening of Fritz Lang's Metropolis on Friday September 6th at 8:30 in Nathan Phillip's Square.



The HERALD Needs: (Please circle one.)

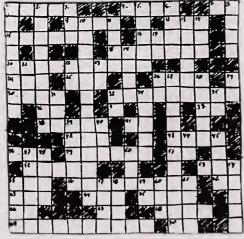
- a. Writers
- b. A good swift kick in the pants
- c. Artists
- d. Editors
- e. Slaves
- f. \$2000 for a new computer
- g. Pâté

If you answered "yes" to any of the above, then go back and read the instructions more carefully. The correct answer is all of the above.









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